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RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Annual Report

on

Vital Statistics and Sanitary Conditions
of the

New Forest Rural District

for the Year 1947

Submitted to the Rural District Council

by

GEORGE HABGOOD, M.A., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health to the New Forest Rural District Council

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NEW FOREST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEDICAL OFFICER'S REPORT FOR 1947.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my Annual Report on the sanitary condition of the New Forest Rural District for the year ending December 31st, 1947.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

	1947	1948
Area (in acres)	94,957	94,957
Estimate of Resident Population ...	39,130	40,070
Estimated number of inhabited houses (end of 1946)	11,536	11,731
Rateable Value 1st April, 1948 ...	£259,888	£270,315
Sum represented by a penny rate (for the year ended March 31st, 1948)	£1,017	£1,098

SOCIAL CONDITIONS INCLUDING THE CHIEF INDUSTRIES CARRIED ON IN THE AREA.

The largest area of the district is the ancient Crown Forest. Forestry is therefore an important industry and represents in many direct and indirect ways the occupations of the inhabitants inside the waterside parishes. There are also a considerable number of smallholders having Forest Rights, who are engaged in calf-rearing and pig-keeping. The areas bordering the Forest on the North, East and South are, except actually on the waterside, agricultural, whilst the waterside portions of the parishes of Eling, Marchwood, Dibden and Fawley are principally industrial, which includes timber works, tar distilling, motor-boat works, flying-boat works, a large petroleum refinery and other light industries. These parishes are therefore mainly inhabited by industrial workers.

No occupation has had any adverse effect on public health so far as is known.

EXTRACT OF VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

Live births :	Total	M.	F.	Birth Rate per 1,000 of the
Legitimate	823	406	417	estimated resident popula-
Illegitimate	40	17	23	tion - 21.53.
	—	—	—	
Total	863	423	440	
	—	—	—	

Still births :	Total	M.	F.	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births) - 22.08.
Legitimate	22	13	9	
Illegitimate	1	1	—	
Birth Rate for England and Wales ...				20.5
Deaths	423	210	211	Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population - 10.50.
Death Rate for England and Wales ...				12.8
Deaths from Puerperal causes (Headings 29 and 30 of the Registrar General's Short List) :—				

Deaths.

No. 29. Puerperal Sepsis	1	Death Rate per 1,000 of births 1.12 (live and still).
No. 30. Other Puerperal causes	0	
	M.	F.
Deaths of infants under one year of age	13	11
Legitimate	12	11
Illegitimate	1	0
Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :		
All infants per 1,000 live births		27.80
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births		27.94
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births		25.00
Death Rate for England and Wales ...		41.00
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)		82
Deaths from Measles (all ages)		0
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years)		0
Deaths from Cerebro-Spinal Fever		0

No causes of sickness or invalidity have been specially noteworthy during the year; no conditions of occupation or environment appear to have had a prejudicial effect on health.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Public Health Officers of the Authority :

- 1 Medical Officer of Health (part-time).
- 1 Senior Sanitary Inspector.
- 1 Deputy Senior Sanitary Inspector.
- 2 Additional Sanitary Inspectors.

A moiety of the salaries of all these Officers is received under the Public Health Acts and the Sanitary Officers devote the whole of their time to their duties.

A Rodent Officer appointed in 1943 devotes the whole of his time to his duties and works under the general supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Mr. G. Topham, additional Sanitary Inspector, resigned his appointment in November.

Legislation in Force :

The following adoptive portion of the Public Health Acts and Byelaws and Regulations are in force in the district :—

Public Health Act, 1925—Sections 17, 18 and 19.

Byelaws with respect to :

New Buildings	...	...	...	1939
New Streets	...	...	...	1933
Slaughter Houses	...	...	...	1932
The Keeping of Animals	...	...	...	1936
Emission of Smoke	...	...	...	1940

Regulations as to :—

Connections of Drains to Sewers (parishes of Eling, Brockenhurst and Lyndhurst only).

The Council accepted delegation of powers under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919, as from 1st October, 1938, and are under direction of the Ministry of Food in carrying out the "Rats and Mice Infestation Order, 1943".

Laboratory Facilities.

Continue as in previous years for all purposes at the County Laboratories and an emergency Public Health Laboratory established during the war now at the Royal County Hospital, Winchester.

Ambulance Facilities :

- (a) For infectious cases, by arrangement with the Southampton Borough Council.
- (b) For other cases, ambulances provided by the St. John Ambulance Association and British Red Cross Society kept at Totton, Brockenhurst and Fawley.

Nursing at Home :

- (a) No changes have occurred in the area for general nursing.
- (b) The isolation and treatment of infectious cases is carried out in the Isolation Hospital of the Southampton Borough Council.

Clinics and Treatment :

These services are provided by the County Council :—

(a) Ante Natal Clinics.

Totton - County Council Health Centre, Rumbridge Street.	1st, 2nd & 3rd Mondays, 2 p.m.
Lyminster - Parish Hall.	2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesdays, 2 p.m.

(b) *Child Welfare Centres.*

Boldre - Memorial Hall, Pilley.	3rd Tuesday
Bramshaw - Village Hall.	2nd Tuesday.
Brockenhurst - Morant Hall.	1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Copythorne - Foresters' Hall, Bartley.	1st & 3rd Thursdays
Dibden Purlieu - Women's Institute Hall.	2nd & 4th Tuesdays
East Boldre - Parish Hall.	1st Thursday
Exbury - Women's Institute.	2nd Thursday
Fawley - Methodist Hall, Wesleyan Lane.	1st & 3rd Mondays
Fritham - Sunday School Room.	2nd Wednesday
Lyndhurst - Church Hall.	1st & 3rd Wednesdays
Marchwood - Church Hall.	1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Minstead - The Hut.	2nd Thursday
Sway - Women's Institute.	2nd Tuesday.
Totton - County Council Health Centre, Rumbridge Street.	Every Friday, all day

(All centres commence at 2.0 p.m. except where otherwise stated).

(c) *Day Nurseries.* Nil.

(d) *School Clinics.*

Minor Ailments (for school children and children under school age).

Totton - County Council Health Centre, Rumbridge Street.	Tuesdays at 9.30 a.m.
Lymington - Parish Hall.	Tuesdays at 9.30 a.m.

Ophthalmic. Clinics for school children and children under school age are held at Totton and Lymington; examinations by appointment only from the County Medical Officer.

Dental. Clinics for school children, children under school age and expectant mothers are held at various centres; attendance by appointment only from the County Medical Officer or County Dental Officer.

(e) *Orthopaedic Clinics.*

Totton - County Council Health Centre, Rumbridge St.	
Surgeon's Clinic - 3rd Tuesday, 2.0 p.m., <i>odd</i> months.	
Remedial Clinic - Every Wednesday, 9.30 and 1.30.	

Cases from the New Forest Rural District area are also dealt with at the Lymington Remedial Clinic held at the Literary Institute on Friday mornings at 9.30 a.m.

(f) *Artificial Light.* Nil.

(g) *Tuberculosis Clinics.*

Christchurch - County Council

Health Centre, Millhams Street. Mondays at 10.0 a.m.

Totton - County Council Health

Centre, Rumbidge Street.

Thursdays at 10.0 a.m.

(h) *Hospitals (Maternity).*

Hospitals in the area with which the County Council has made arrangements for the reception of Maternity cases are :

Boscombe - Royal Victoria and West Hants Hospital.

Winchester - Royal Hampshire County Hospital.

Cases where the conditions in the home are unsuitable are admitted to the County Council Maternity Homes at Hill Rise, Lyndhurst and The Grove, Barton-on-Sea.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water.

No. of samples of Water taken	Results of Exam.		Remedial Work Done			Remarks
	Fit	Unfit	Piped service installed	Wells improved and water made fit	Remain unfit	
111	61	50	65	3	16	Unfit wells are in hand.

During the year the Council have had under constant review and considerable progress has been made in regard to the extension of water mains in the parishes of Bramshaw, Minstead, Netley Marsh, Copythorne, Marchwood, Fawley, Dibden, Beaulieu, Rhinefield and Denny Lodge.

Consultations have taken place with the Statutory Water undertakers and the Agricultural Executive Committee in respect of these extensions and schemes have been submitted to the Minister of Health for approval.

In particular a great deal of work has been done in regard to the provision of such a supply for the Parishes of Bramshaw and Minstead and it is hoped that the approval of the Minister will be forthcoming in the very near future to enable this work to go forward.

During the year the following extensions were completed under guarantee agreement with the Southampton Corporation.

Neilson Place, Fawley, 4" main - 325 yards.

Ower, Fawley, 4" main - 280 yards.

The district is supplied with water by the Southampton Corporation and the West Hampshire Water Co., the supply has been constant and the quality satisfactory. A number of sporadic samples taken for bacteriological examination by the Health Department of the water supplied by both undertakers were also found, upon analysis, to be satisfactory.

The water supply to the village of Emery Down and parts of the Parish of Minstead is under the control of the Council. Water is purchased in bulk from the Southampton Corporation and boosted to the village by two automatic electrically controlled pumps.

During the year this supply has been constant and the quality satisfactory. The quantity of water consumed from September 1946 to September 1947 was 1,200,000 gallons.

Action in respect of any form of contamination :

During the year under review constant effort has been made to provide a piped water supply to those properties supplied by wells where a main supply is available. Also, in those areas where at present no main supply exists, surveys have been made, samples of the well waters taken and analysed and recommendations made to the Public Health Committee accordingly. Where practicable, work has been carried out to wells to improve the supply where no main supply is available.

A total of 111 samples were taken from wells and other sources of supply of which 50 were found to be polluted.

As a result of formal and informal action under the appropriate Acts, a total of 65 properties were connected to the water mains during the year. Of the 16 "remaining unfit" the necessary action has been taken but the work not completed at the end of the year.

In assessing the progress made during the year, it is considered in view of the difficulties which had to be surmounted and the abnormal amount of work involved, due to the high cost of work and the shortage of water pipe, that the efforts made to provide houses with a wholesome and readily available supply of water have not been entirely unrewarded.

A great deal, however, remains to be done and it is most gratifying to record the continued efforts which are being made by the Council to provide piped water supplies in those parts of their district where such a supply is not now available which will result in a number of areas having a supply in the ensuing year.

*Percentage Number of Dwelling Houses in the District
supplied from Public Water Mains.*

Parish	Main Supply	Per-centage of houses connect-ed to Mains	Per-centage of houses with wells or other means of supply	Remarks
Lyndhurst	Yes	98	2	—
Brockenhurst	Yes	96	4	—
Copythorne	Yes	55	45	Parts of this Parish lie outside the stat. limits of supply of Southampton Corp. The Council have approved extensions.
Sway	Yes	89	11	—
Fawley	Yes	83	17	Council have approved small extensions in areas not covered by existing mains.
East Boldre	Yes	48	52	—
Dibden	Yes	86	14	Council have approved extensions in areas not covered by existing mains
Marchwood	Yes	73	27	ditto
Netley Marsh	Yes	52	48	Council have approved extension in certain areas where there are no exist-ing mains.
Eling	Yes	99	1	—
Denny Lodge	Yes	2	98	Council have approved extension in certain parts where there are no exist-ing mains.
Boldre	Yes	51	49	—
Minstead	No	—	100	See remarks in report.
Bramshaw	No	—	100	ditto
Beaulieu	Private Estate Supply	—	—	Council have approved extension of West Hants Water Mains to cover Parish.
Exbury	Private Estate Supply	—	—	—
Rhinefield	Yes	25	75	Council have approved extension to parts of this Parish.

No waters are known to have any plumbo solvent action and there are no known cases of plumbism.

Drainage and Sewerage.

In the course of the year the Council have actively pursued the provision of main drainage schemes and the extension of existing schemes in the parishes of Eling, Brockenhurst, Boldre, E. Boldre, Dibden, Fawley and Netley Marsh.

The necessary plans, bills of quantities etc., in regard to a number were submitted to the Minister of Health in 1946 and the remainder during the year under review.

As a result the following extensions of the public sewers were completed during the year in the Parish of Eling.

Testwood Lane (North End), Totton.

Sylvia Crescent, Totton.

Milverton Road, Totton.

Shepherds Hey Road, Totton.

The Parishes of Eling, Brockenhurst, and Lyndhurst are provided with main drainage. The work of improving the sewage disposal works at Lyndhurst had not been commenced during the year.

A great deal of time and effort has again been given to the connection of properties to the public sewers and the conversion from conservancy to water carriage.

Progress has been maintained despite the present high costs and the shortage of material and as a result of formal and informal action 46 properties were converted from conservancy to water carriage, including the construction of 23 compartments and the drains connected to the public sewer.

In regard to defective and insufficient drainage systems and defective sanitary accommodation the following work has been completed for the period under review.

a.	Defective cesspits filled in and drainage systems laid down and connected to the public sewers	21
b.	Defective drains repaired	50
c.	Defective Sanitary accommodation renewed ...	64
d.	Overflowing cesspits dealt with	61
e.	Sinks and sink waste drainage provided ...	55

ANALYSIS OF CONNECTIONS TO THE PUBLIC SEWERS.

1943	1944	1945	1946	1947
23	23	63	66	73

These figures do not include the new houses erected during the year by the Council and private enterprise, of which 152 were connected to the sewer in the parish of Eling.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

Action has been taken to check the pollution of rivers and streams.

In a number of cases where it was found that sewage was being discharged into streams the persons responsible were requested to abate the nuisance.

A number of streams have been cleaned out into which sewage had been discharged.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

An organised scheme for the collection of house refuse is in operation throughout the whole of the rural district, the refuse being collected fortnightly by the Council's own plant and staff under the supervision of the Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Trade refuse is also collected weekly on payment; the scale of charges being based upon the average number of bins for disposal.

Disposal of all refuse is by controlled tipping at sites situated at Marchwood, Holbury and Norley Wood and Stoney Cross. Ample covering material is available on each site.

Five ten cubic yard Dennis side loading vehicles and 19 personnel are employed in carrying out the service.

Maintenance of vehicles has not been easy owing to difficulties in acquiring spare parts. The service was also seriously disrupted due to the acute shortage of tyres. On appeal to the Ministry of Health a number of tyres were received, which came at a time when one vehicle was actually off the road for this reason.

During the year a total of 52,284 miles was covered and approx. 9,096 tons of refuse collected and disposed of.

At the latter end of the year the Public Health Committee very carefully investigated the necessity for a weekly collection of house refuse in the more thickly populated parts of their district. In view of the difficulty in acquiring vehicles etc., the alteration was postponed for twelve months.

A number of the collection staff left the service during the year on securing better employment. It has been found difficult to recruit the right type of man for the work and the changes which have taken place have had the effect of retarding the efficiency of the service due to personnel being short of complement for a considerable time during the year.

Every consideration is given to the men's welfare and an annual outing has been arranged whereby they can take their wives, families and any friends they wish.

This year a coach trip to Bristol was arranged which was said to have been very enjoyable and will prove to be a most popular event.

Next year a coach trip to Weymouth has been arranged.

Litter Baskets :

Litter baskets are provided by the Council at Calshot Beach and other areas popular with holidaymakers and trippers etc. The contents are collected and disposed of as required by the refuse collecting staff.

During the year the Council decided to provide an additional nineteen baskets at other popular areas in the Forest.

These will be erected during 1948.

Provision of Dustbins :

72 inspections have been made during the year to premises having no proper sanitary dustbins.

COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL OF SALVAGE.

Salvage is collected from private dwellings at the same time as the refuse and in addition there is a special weekly collection from shops and industrial premises.

All salvage is collected by the refuse collecting staff, no separate organisation to deal with this work being engaged.

The total amount of salvage collected and disposed of shows an increase over the preceding year.

Salvage Collected and Disposed, etc.

Articles	Tons.	Cwts.	Qtrs.	£	s.	d.
Waste Paper	128	9	—	758	2	2
Textiles	7	6	—	168	10	0
Bones	3	13	—	19	0	0
Bottles, Jars, etc. ...	11	4	—	177	0	0
Total	150	12	—	1122	12	2
Board of Trade Allowance for increased paper collection over 1946						
	...	...	...	30	17	11
Grand Total ... ..	...	...	...	1153	10	1

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Summary of Inspections made.

Nature of Inspections	No. made
Infectious Diseases	157
Nuisances	831
Water Supply	285
Housing	2431
Retail Meat and Food Shops	210
Milk and Dairies	203
Food Preparing Premises	68
Milk Samples	32
Factories and Workshops	60
Refuse Collection and Disposal	72
Verminous Premises	44
Schools	27
Moveable Dwellings and Camp Sites	54
Smoke Abatement	27
Rats and Mice	5311
Miscellaneous Inspections and Visits	150
Total ...	9,962

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

Action has been taken for the eradication of bed bugs and fleas. Eight private dwellings and 2 Council houses were involved.

SWIMMING POOLS.

There are no public or privately owned baths or pools open to the public in the district.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

27 smoke observations were made during the year in the parish of Eling. No statutory action was taken.

In one undertaking liquid pitch is used as fuel.

Smoke is often caused by the clogging of the burner sprays with particles of carbon suspended in the molten pitch. To overcome this difficulty, I sought the advice of Dr. E. J. Mahler, of the Ministry of Health. Interviews with the management resulted in the filtration system being modified whereby the grosser particles can be settled out and so prevent them passing forward to the burners.

Dr. Mahler visited the works with the Senior Sanitary Inspector on a number of occasions and it can be said that a great deal of improvement has taken place and with good house-keeping the emission of smoke at these works should be negligible.

Tar Macadam Plant - Emission of Dust.

During the year complaints were received of a serious emission of dust from a tar macadam plant.

Observations and tests proved the complaints to be justified. A great deal of time was devoted to this very complex problem, both by the Senior Sanitary Inspector and Dr. Mahler of the Ministry of Health whose expert advice, guidance and help was very much appreciated.

Negotiations with the works officials resulted in screening and dust arrestment devices being installed. The work of installation was rather prolonged due to the delay in the manufacture of such plant. Modifications and improvements have been carried out since the completion of the work, and it is thought that the steps taken will be effective.

SCHOOLS.

During the year 27 routine inspections were made of the Schools in the district.

At Brockenhurst, Emery Down, Lyndhurst and Totton the School premises are connected to the main drainage. Exbury, Hardley, Colbury and South Baddesley schools have water carriage systems connected to their own disposal plants.

In the remaining parishes where sewers are not available, earth closets are provided.

With the exception of Bramshaw and Minstead which rely upon wells - no main supply being available, the schools have a piped water supply.

A number of defects found were reported to the County Education Authority and the necessary work carried out.

During the year the Public Health Committee took up the matter of the provision of hygienic drinking fountains to schools having a piped water supply. It is regretted that the County Education Authority had not at the end of the year agreed to install such important appliances.

It was not found necessary to close any of the schools by reason of infectious disease.

MILK, DAIRIES AND COWSHEDS.

A number of changes in the proprietorship of dairy farms have taken place during the year, and there are now 379 registered premises, an increase of 11 over 1946.

The number of retailers in the district who are not producers, is 12.

There are now 40 producers of "Tuberculin Tested" milk and 41 "Accredited" producers in the district, representing an increase of 6 and 4 respectively over 1946.

Whilst the number of producers of "T.T." milk has slightly increased in the past few years, the total number represents only a small proportion of the total number of producers.

This is very disappointing in view of the publicity and efforts given to this subject by the Public Health Committee.

The County Council is the responsible authority for licensing producers of "Special Designated" milk, and the District Council for Supplementary and Dealers' licences.

During the year the Council have issued 1 Bottling and 3 Dealers' licences in respect of "T.T." milk, and 4 Dealers' and 2 Supplementary licences for the sale of "Pasteurised" milk. 18 samples of Pasteurised milk were taken in course of delivery, all complying with the Regulations.

During the summer months a number of complaints were received regarding the keeping quality and cleanliness of milk supplied by certain Producer/Retailers. 14 samples were taken for bacteriological examination. The results of the examination and the subsequent action taken thereon proved the complaints to be justified. The cause was attributed to want of cleanliness and hygienic method of production.

The fact is still not appreciated by many, including Producer, Retailer and Consumer, that the keeping quality of milk is dependent upon its cleanliness, which can only be brought about by thorough cleanliness in all its aspects, hygienic methods of production, and cleanliness of utensils.

No pathogenic organisms were found in any of the samples.

The County Council is responsible for the qualitative examination of milk, and complaints received by the Health Department are passed to the officer responsible.

203 inspections were made during the year, and the following work completed :—

Construction of new cowsheds	...	...	5
Construction of new dairies	...	...	4
New cowshed floors	...	...	3
New drainage systems provided	...	...	2
Improved lighting and ventilation	...	...	3
Limewashing carried out	...	...	61
New cooling apparatus provided	...	...	3
Other unclean conditions remedied	...	...	23

The principle of clean milk production has been given first consideration, and whilst good results have been maintained generally, it is still thought by many that clean milk is costly to produce, involving extra labour, expensive buildings and equipment if success is to be achieved. This conception is indeed

erroneous. A first class product can be produced with moderate buildings and inexpensive equipment, and, inversely, dirty milk may be produced with elaborate buildings and the finest equipment in use. Clean milk can be produced by any person having the will to do so.

T.T. Area.

The Public Health Committee have again had under active consideration the possibility of a suitable area being made and legally instituted a T.T Area to include the New Forest Rural District.

TENTS, VANS AND SHEDS.

During the year a total of 54 inspections were made to camping sites (including gypsy encampments) and individual moveable dwellings. 7 camping sites and 24 moveable dwellings were licensed by the Council under Section 269 Public Health Act, 1936

The camping sites on the whole were fully occupied during the season, and were well conducted.

A number of huts on these sites are occupied permanently due to the shortage of housing accommodation. Difficulties are experienced in this direction, many being overcrowded, and unsuitable structurally. Until the time when sufficient houses are available, a degree of relaxation of what is desirable seems to be quite inevitable.

HOUSING.

All complaints have been dealt with so far as practicable.

It has not been found possible to recondition and bring up to standard, "unfit houses" in accordance with the Housing Act 1936, action having to be confined to the Public Health Acts in view of the need for concentrating on the erection of new houses as advised by the Ministry of Health.

With the limited resources available, and the restrictions imposed by the Building licencing regulations, the principle has been to endeavour to obtain the maximum amount of protection and comfort for the greatest number of people.

Housing conditions are still far from satisfactory, due to the lack of housing accommodation brought about by the effects of total war, and presents a great problem. Cases of overcrowding and unhealthy housing conditions still give rise to much concern.

1. Inspection of Dwelling Houses, etc. (other than Hob-house Survey).

(a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected	134
(b) Number of inspections and visits made in connection therewith	670

2. Summary of defects remedied during the year.			
(a) Defective roofs repaired ...	...	...	55
(b) Defective floors taken up and renewed ...	...	...	28
(c) Other major items of disrepair ...	...	...	50
(d) Dampness abated ...	...	...	19

Number of COUNCIL HOUSES erected during the year.

Calmore Road, Totton ...	37.	(30 Traditional, 7 Airey Permanent Prefabricated).
Claymeadow Farm, Totton	100.	Temporary.
Burnt House Lane, Boldre	6.	Swedish.
The Crescent, Marchwood	12.	Traditional.
Crete Road, Dibden Purlieu	10.	Traditional.
Water Lane, Totton ...	2.	Traditional.

Total 167.

Number of Houses erected by Private enterprise.

Parish of Eling ...	13.
Parish of Copythorne ...	3.
Parish of East Boldre ...	1.
Parish of Fawley ...	6.
Parish of Marchwood ...	1.
Parish of Netley Marsh ...	3.
Parish of Minstead ...	1.

Total 28.

War destroyed Houses rebuilt.

Parish of Eling ...	1.
Parish of Dibden ...	2.
Parish of Fawley ...	2.

Total 5.

Particulars of Houses owned by the Local Authority.

Boldre ...	36.
Brockenhurst ...	42.
Copythorne ...	28.
Dibden ...	32.
East Boldre ...	22.
Eling ...	170.
Fawley ...	22.
Marchwood ...	33.
Netley Marsh ...	8.
Sway ...	14.

Total 407.

Families occupying Military Camps.

Service Camps at Yew Tree Heath, Beaulieu; Veals Farm, Marchwood; Beaulieu Site 4; Lime Kiln Lane, Fawley; Stoney Cross, and Hounslow have been taken over by the Council, and simple conversions for living accommodation carried out. The Camps at the end of the year were capable of accommodating 254 families. Periodical visits have been made, and samples of the water supplies taken and analysed.

RURAL HOUSING.

Ministry of Health Circular, 64/44.

In connection with the survey of working class dwellings called for by the Ministry of Health under Circular 64/44 and recommended in the Hobhouse Report, 1761 premises were inspected during the year giving a total of 5208 since the beginning of the Survey in May, 1945.

Rate of progress has not been as satisfactory as was anticipated owing to the fact that the Department has been short staffed and other important work has had to be given priority. No difficulties have been met with during the survey in 1947.

The 5208 houses surveyed are categorised and grouped as follows :—

PARISH OF BROCKENHURST.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	6	144	142	2	26	320
	B	1	13	19	5	8	46
	C	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total		7	157	161	7	35	367

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 9.5

PARISH OF BOLDRE.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	—	—	19	—	—	19
	C	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		—	—	19	—	—	19

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected —

PARISH OF SWAY.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	62	153	158	19	61	453
	C	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		62	153	158	19	61	453

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 13.5

PARISH OF COPYTHORNE.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	23	152	233	5	74	487
	C	—	—	1	—	1	2
Total		23	152	234	5	75	489

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 15.3

PARISH OF NETLEY MARSH.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	4	—	—	—	—	4
	B	17	125	189	2	38	371
	C	—	—	—	—	2	2
Total		21	125	189	2	40	377

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 10.6

PARISH OF MINSTEAD.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	—	—	8	1	—	9
	C	—	—	—	—	1	1
Total		—	—	8	1	1	10

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 10.0

PARISH OF FAWLEY.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	150	153	198	7	72	580
	C	—	1	14	4	6	25
Total		150	154	212	11	78	605

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 12.9

PARISH OF MARCHWOOD.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	—	—	2	—	9	11
	C	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		—	—	2	—	9	11

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 81.8

PARISH OF ELING.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	200	2092	188	14	40	2534
	B	20	133	15	2	1	171
	C	—	15	—	—	3	4
Total		220	2226	203	16	44	2709

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 1.6

PARISH OF BRAMSHAW.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	—	3	41	5	11	60
	C	—	—	1	—	—	1
Total		—	3	42	5	11	61

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 18.1

PARISH OF DIBDEN.

Category		1	2	3	4	5	Total
Group	A	—	—	—	—	—	—
	B	6	25	70	2	3	106
	C	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total		6	25	70	2	3	106

Category 5 houses as percentage of number inspected 2.8

PARISH OF LYNTHURST - 1 - 5A.

Total number of category 5 houses as percentage of total number inspected - 6.9.

FACTORIES.

Premises	No. in Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted.
Factories with mechanical power	88	48	7	—
Factories without mechanical power ...	28	12	2	—
Total	116	60	9	—

Cases in which defects were found.

Particulars	Number of Defects				Defects entailing Prosecution
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	Referred by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	3	3	—	—	—
Overcrowding	—	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temperature ...	—	—	1	—	—
Inadequate Ventilation ...	1	1	—	—	—
Ineffective Drainage of floors	—	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences :					
Insufficient	3	3	—	—	—
Unsuitable or defective ...	1	1	—	—	—
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—	—	—	—
Lack of wholesome water supply	2	2	—	—	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—	—
Total ...	10	10	1	—	—

5 Outworkers were employed in the district during the year.

MEAT, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, FOOD SHOPS, ETC.

Number of inspections 205
Number of inspections at Cottage killings ... 5

There are 12 registered and 5 licensed slaughter houses in the district, all of which have been closed under Defence Regulations. The Ministry of Food have not used any for centralised slaughtering.

Much time was spent examining foodstuffs, and the following found unfit for human consumption :—

115 Tins Corned Beef	...	Decomposition.
43 Tins Meat	...	"
76½ lbs Margarine	...	Rancid and mouldy.
5 stones Haddock	...	Decomposition.
122 Tins Milk	...	"
44 Tins Jam and Marmalade	...	"
9½ lbs Liver (h.k.)	...	Cirrhosis.
2087½ lbs Imported Beef	...	Bone taint.
472 lbs English Beef	...	"
76¾ lbs English Beef	...	Bruised and unsound.
298 lbs English Beef	...	Tuberculosis.
17 Tins Peas	...	Unsound.
188 lbs Peas	...	Maggotty and unsound.
24¾ lbs Cheese	...	Excessive mould.
30 Tins Fish	...	Decomposition.
1 cwt. Pearl Barley	...	Mouldy.
71 Tins Fruit	...	Decomposition.
20 Tins Beans	...	"
11 lbs Cereals	...	Unsound.
135 lbs Bacon	...	Abscess, flyblown and putrefaction.
86 Tins Vegetables	...	Decomposition.
3½ stones Herrings	...	"
1 Sheeps' Liver (3lbs)	...	Fatty degeneration.
11 dozen Eggs (English)	...	Decomposition.
71 Tins household dried milk	...	Solid and rancid.
7 lbs Custard Powder	...	Contaminated by creosote.
25½ lbs Prunes	...	Decomposition and mould.
50 lbs Granulated Sugar	...	Impregnated with dirt.
420 lbs Dough (280 lbs flour)	...	Contamination.
55 × ½lb packets Beef Suet	...	Stale, rancid and unsound.
19 Tins Herring Tidbits	...	Decomposition and blown.
2¼ cwts. Biscuits (Australian)	...	Broken, crumbling and unsound.
1295 lbs Pears	...	External bruising and decomposition.
3½ lbs Barley Flour	...	Mouldy.
8 lbs Sweetbreads	...	Unsound.
114 Tins Herring Spread	...	Decomposition.
192½ lbs Butter	...	Rancid, mouldy and unsound.
1 Pig	...	Tuberculosis - generalised.
31 Tins Miscellaneous	...	Decomposition.

All fats and all meat (other than tinned) were returned to the wholesalers as required by the Ministry of Food. Other condemned food was used for animal feeding.

FOOD AND DRUGS.

Food Premises :

The work of reconstruction of the only large food factory in the district was nearing completion at the end of this year. The installation of hygienic machinery it is hoped will give added protection to the general public but even now it is necessary to provide strict supervision. If machines are not kept in a state of perfect cleanliness they can become a greater menace than ever. It has taken no little effort on our part to finally convince the management of this fact.

Restaurants, cafes, bakehouses, retail shops, etc., have all received the attention that it has been possible to give them with the staff available. Progress, if not rapid, has been steady and will greatly improve when towels and soap can be purchased without restriction.

I am still of the opinion that all premises used for the manufacture, sale or storage of food should be registered.

Ice Cream :

There are 19 premises registered for the sale of ice cream and 5 registered for sale and manufacture. Regular inspections have been carried out and samples taken.

The Ice Cream (Heat Treatment, etc.) regulations came into force on May 1st, but no standard for purity or quality is contained therein. The Ministry of Health, recommended that the Methylene blue reduction test should be given a trial for assessing the bacterial cleanliness of ice cream and that four grades should be tentatively laid down.

It has been the endeavour of this department to obtain first or second grading for all the vendors in the area. Samples from retailers selling ice cream supplied by reputable firms are invariably in these grades but local "small" manufacturers have given more trouble. It has been experienced that after a considerable amount of time and trouble has been spent in obtaining the necessary results, subsequent samples have shown that the standard has not been maintained. It appears, however, that all the ice cream traders in the district are desirous of obtaining and selling the very best commodity that it is possible for them to obtain.

Licensed Premises :

Periodical inspections are made of the sanitary accommodation at the above premises. The standard of cleanliness on the whole has improved but lack of water in some districts is a very great handicap to sufficient flushing.

It is with pleasure we notice that Brewers and their tenants are beginning to understand that glasses can be washed much more easily and hygienicly in hot water and means of obtaining constant supplies are very slowly appearing - the difficulty of obtaining supplies of towels and detergents also applies to these establishments.

RATS AND MICE DESTRUCTION ACT.

Under direction from the Ministry of Food, a staff of one Rodent Officer and four Operatives were engaged on this work until June. During this month the "Block Control Scheme" was completed, and the staff reduced to the Rodent Officer and one operator.

The method of killing rats and mice in the Block Control Scheme has proved very effective, and a high percentage of kills has been achieved throughout the whole of the district.

On completion of the control scheme, the Rodent Officer and operative have been fully occupied in dealing with complaints of infestation and following-up work. Whilst it is not possible to carry out systematic control methods in each case, this is resorted to when and where practicable.

Refuse Disposal Sites and Sewage Disposal Works have been inspected periodically, and when found necessary, disinfection carried out. The number of cases of re-infestation after treatment has been small.

The sewers at Totton, Lyndhurst and Brockenhurst were tested during the year, and found free from infestation.

During the year 5310 visits were made, and 834 premises found infested and treated. The numbers of dead rats and mice recovered, etc., were as follows:—

No. of Premises Treated	No. of Dead Recovered		Approximate Kill	
	Rats	Mice	Rats	Mice
834	933	158	8548	3513

THE PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Notifiable Cases (other than Tuberculosis) notified during the year :—

Disease.	Total Cases Notified.	Cases admitted to Hospital.	Total Deaths.
Measles	338	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	30	—	—
Scarlet Fever	6	—	—
Diphtheria	3	3	—
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	1	—
Anterior Poliomyelitis ...	14	12	1
Pneumonia	9	—	15
Erysipelas	3	3	—
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	3	3	—
Food Poisoning	2	—	—
Malaria (relapse)	1	—	—
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	3	1	—
Totals ...	413	23	16

There was a small epidemic of Measles in the months of April, May and June.

Throughout the year cases of Whooping Cough in small numbers have been notified.

For the three cases of Diphtheria notified one was a visitor aged 25. One a girl of 15 who had been immunised in infancy and the other a soldier aged 18.

This district suffered from the generalised epidemic of acute Anterior Poliomyelitis. In all 14 cases were notified, the first on July 31st, the last on October 21st. The ages ranging from 5 years to 37 years. There was one death, a woman aged 37.

The one case of Cerebro-Spinal Fever was an R.A.F. man home on leave, aged 18.

According to the Registrar General's figures, the population in the past year has increased by 940.

In spite of the progress which has been made in building houses there is considerable over-crowding in the more urban parts of the district.

The infantile mortality rate is 27.80 compared with 41 for England and Wales.

IMMUNISATION AGAINST DIPHTHERIA.

Progress in the treatment of children under 15 years of age has been maintained and the scheme in operation in the district appears to be working satisfactorily. The arrangements for free treatment at doctors' surgeries are meeting with success and are a great convenience to parents.

STATISTICAL DETAILS.

	<i>Under 5.</i>	<i>5 - 14.</i>	<i>Total.</i>	<i>Reinforcing Injections.</i>
No. of children known to have received a full course of primary immunisation during 12 months ended 31st December, 1947.	515	33	548	226
Total No. of children in the district known to have received treatment at 31st Dec., 1947 including those mentioned above.	1865	4119	5984	Not available.
Estimated child population mid-year 1947.	3540	5810	9350	

TUBERCULOSIS.

New Cases and Mortality during 1947.

Age Periods.			New Cases.				Deaths.			
			Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
			M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1	...	...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5	...	...	5	—	1	2	1	—	—	—
15	...	...	6	5	—	1	—	1	—	—
25	...	...	4	3	—	—	1	1	—	—
35	...	...	2	2	—	—	2	2	—	—
45	...	...	—	2	—	—	1	1	1	—
55	...	...	3	2	—	—	1	1	—	—
65 and upwards			1	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Totals	...		21	15	1	3	6	6	2	—

I have the honour to be, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

G. HABGOOD,

Medical Officer of Health.

